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Michigan Society of Planning

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To: Representative Stakoe and Members of the House Local Government and Urban Policy Committee

From: Andrea Brown, Executive Director, Michigan Society of Planning

Subject: Construction Conflict of Interest

Date: March 22, 2005

It is with great interest that the Michigan Society of Planning responds to HBs 4206, 07, 08 and 09. Conflict of Interest in the construction industry is an important issue and MSP is heartened to see that this topic is being given public attention and scrutiny through the legislative process. In many Michigan communities the Zoning Official plays the dual role of Zoning Official and Building Official, charged with enforcement of both building and zoning codes. As such, legislation which addresses conflict of interest for Building/Zoning Officials is generally supported by our organization. Conflict of Interest legislation can go a long way toward protecting local communities.